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## October 2006 Minutes

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### VISION 2020 STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 11, 2006 MEETING

**In attendance:** Jane Howard, Joey Glushko, Andrew Fischer, Bruce Fitzsimmons (Redevelopment Board), Elizabeth Karpati, Josh Lobel, Leslie Mayer, Heidi Sheehan.

The **minutes** of the May 15, August 23, and September 14 meetings were approved with one change: the addition of Sherry Miller to the list of September attendees.

#### Reports on recent events:

- A workshop on identification of **aquatic invasives** vs. harmless plants was conducted on September 27 by Anne Monnelly of DCR, who is an Arlington resident and supervised the recent state grant for Spy Pond water quality improvement. Seventeen people attended and received a booklet with an identification key and hands-on practice with weed samples. Any invasives spotted in Town water bodies should be reported to Town officials and the Con Com so that they can be removed before they become established.
- Chuck Tirone of the Con Com has put "Stop" signs at points where boats are put into the water, warning people to clean their boats to keep from spreading invasives.
- A workday was held at the **Reservoir** on September 30. More than a dozen people spread wood chips along the uneven part of the path and picked up litter. Some construction debris was found in the wooded patch along Lowell St. and removed by DPW along with the trash.
- The planting plan for the Res is almost finalized and will be put in the Library when ready. Leslie will check about putting it on the Town website. Planting will take place in the spring.
- "Green" architect Bill Reed gave a talk (sponsored by the Spy Pond Committee) on October 3, giving a broad view of what we should be looking at in trying to keep our environment healthy.

#### Coming events:

- Jane distributed a schedule of events connected with the upcoming Community Read.
- Jane will meet with the new director of the Arlington Center for the Arts about appointing an arts representative to the Standing Committee. Town Meeting has approved the establishment of a Cultural Commission but none has been appointed yet.
- Josh Lobel proposed a series of forums to inform the public about school goals and strategies, developments in other schools, etc. SPOT, Superintendent Levinson, and the School Committee all are in favor.

#### Census Survey:

- The survey will build on what we learned from the last one about open space, sustainability, and recycling. The Open Space Committee supplied two pages of questions. There will be a couple of questions from Activate Arlington and maybe from TAC (Transportation Advisory Committee). Possible additional questions were discussed.
- Deadline for e-mailing questions to Jane is Friday, October 27. There will be a meeting on putting the survey together at 8 a.m. Tuesday, October 31.

#### Town Hall news:

- Symmes: E.A. Fish is still negotiating with some residents who appealed the special permit, so the 100% plan will probably be delayed beyond early November. Fish wants to take possession in January 2007 and will take over the carrying costs then.
- The Treasurer is trying to speed up the state reimbursement for the school rebuilding costs.
- TAC has the go-ahead for the Mass. Ave. project so that design should begin soon.
- The Board of Selectmen has denied all liquor license applications so far; some are appealing.
- The next revision of the Open Space Plan is due in August 2007. The OS Committee will hire a consultant to help with getting public input into the plan.
- The Board of Selectmen wants the Planning Department to take a look at issues like zoning.



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